(c) whether the Expert Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri R.C. Mishra for developing business models for channels under Prasar Bharati has submitted its Report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATISUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Amendment in the Cable Network Regulation Act, 1995

517. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have introduced a Bill to amend the Cable Network Regulation Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed legislation;

(c) by when the legislation is likely to come into force; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the cable consumers against the monopolistic domination of the cable operators?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING . (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Bill to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 15.5.2002 and is with the Rajya Sabha for consideration. The Bill, *inter alia,* seeks to mandate the viewing of pay channels through an addressable system. It empowers the Government to notify from time to time and place to place, the maximum subscription charge of the basic tier of free to air channels.The objective is to ensure that every subscriber receives at least a minimum number of free to air channels of different genres at a reasonable cost.The system is expected to be in the interest of consumers, cable service providers as well as broadcasters. It will bring in transparency in the figures of viewership, and will allow the consumers to choose and pay for the channel(s) they wish to watch.